

Message Text

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13

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCCT-01 SAB-01 SAM-01 EUR-12 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /068 W

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R 091010Z DEC 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2330

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MANAMA

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY AMMAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L ABU DHABI 1734

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,TC,IS

SUBJECT: TWO UAE ADVISORS COMMENT ON ARAB-ISRAEL SITUATION

KUWAIT PASS DOHA

1. ARAB-ISRAEL PROBLEM ARISES FREQUENTLY IN DISCUSSIONS WITH UAEG OFFICIALS HERE. FOR MOST PART SUBJECT IS TREATED IN FAMILIAR TERMS, AND WE HAVE NOT WISHED TO ADD FURTHER TO THE PAPER ALREADY BURDENING DESKS IN WASHINGTON BY REPORTING THESE CONVERSATIONS IN DETAIL. WE DO WISH, HOWEVER, TO PASS ON GIST OF TWO RECENT CONVERSATIONS MAINLY BECAUSE THEY WERE WITH ADVISORS WHO ARE CLOSE TO SHAIKH ZAYID.

2. WHEN I SAW FONMIN SUWAIDI NOVEMBER 23, I SOUGHT HIS IMPRESSIONS OF RABAT SUMMIT. SUWAIDI SAID HE HAD BEEN IMPRESSED WITH PROCEEDINGS AND CONSIDERED OUTCOME--ENDORSEMENT OF PLO--TO BE HEALTHY DEVELOPMENT. WHEREAS PLO COULD NOT TODAY PUBLICLY ANNOUNCE THAT
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IT WAS PREPARED TO LIVE WITH STATE OF ISRAEL, IN FACT SUWAIDI WAS

CONVINCED FROM HIS OWN SOUNDINGS THAT PLO LEADERSHIP NOW ACCEPTED THIS, AND THAT IT WAS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE ON THIS BASIS. SUWAIDI COMPLIMENTED KING HUSSAIN ON HIS STATESMANLIKE ACCEPTANCE OF ARAB DECISION RE PLO. HE SAID IT WAS, IN FACT, ONLY SOLUTION THAT MADE SENSE IN LONG TERM. THERE WAS NO POINT IN WORLD PRETENDING ANY LONGER THAT PALESTINIANS DID NOT EXIST OR THAT THEY COULD NOT SPEAK FOR THEMSELVES. SUWAIDI SAID AS SOON AS ISRAELIS GOT USED TO IDEA THEY WOULD SEE THAT DEALING DIRECTLY WITH THE PLO ON PALESTINIAN ASPECT OF ISSUE WOULD SERVE THEM BETTER THAN DEALING THROUGH SOME ARAB INTERMEDIARY. RABAT DECISION WOULD ACTUALLY SERVE CAUSE OF NEGOTIATIONS. IT WAS UP TO THE US TO PERSUADE ISRAEL THAT IT SHOULD WELCOME DEVELOPMENT WHICH CREATED MORE HOMOGENEOUS ARAB NEGOTIATING FRONT, AND BROUGHT PALESTINIANS MORE CLOSELY INTO STEP WITH MODERATE ARAB GOVERNMENTS. I SAID THAT BECAUSE OF ISRAELI OPPOSITON TO DEALING WITH PLO RABAT DECISION HAD COMPLICATED NEXT STAGE OF NEGOTIATIONS, BUT USG WAS NOT GIVING UP. WE WERE CONTINUING OUR EFFORTS AND ARE HOPEFUL BASIS CAN BE FOUND FOR FURTHER STATE OF WITHDRAWAL, BUT IT MIGHT TAKE LONGER THAN WE HAD EARLIER HOPED.

3. MORE RECENTLY, I HAD GO-AROUND ON SUBJECT WITH ADNAN PACHACHI, FOREIGN POLICY ADVISOR TO SHAIKH ZAYID. ACCORDING TO SOME, PACHACHI HAS LOST SOME OF HIS EARLIER INFLUENCE HEREABOUTS, BUT HE APPARENTLY DOES CONTINUE TO SEE ZAYID FROM TIME TO TIME. PACHACHI TOOK PESSIMISTIC VIEW OF FUTURE. HE SAID HE WAS LONG-TIME STUDENT OF ISRAELI BEHAVIOR AND HE DID NOT LIKE WHAT HE WAS SEEING AT PRESENT. HE DID NOT THINK ISRAELIS HAD ANY REAL INTENTION TO NEGOTIATE. FOR YEARS IT HAD BEEN ARABS WHO HAD BEEN UNWILLING TO NEGOTIATE AND ISRAELIS WERE PROMISING WONDERFUL THINGS IF THEY WOULD EVER SIT DOWN WITH THEM. NOW SITUATION WAS TOTALLY REVERSED. FOR MORE THAN YEAR ARABS HAVE BEEN PREPARED TO TALK ABOUT ANYTHING AND EVERYTHING BUT ISRAELIS WERE NOW EVADING NEGOTIATIONS. PACHACHI SAID HE WAS CONVINCED ISRAELIS ARE LOOKING FOR A PRETEXT FOR ANOTHER ROUND OF FIGHTING. THEY WANTED TO RESTORE THEIR AURA OF MILITARY INVINCIBILITY.

4. PACHACHI SAID PEACE SETTLEMENT WOULD ONLY COME ABOUT WHEN US AND USSR MADE UP THEIR MINDS THEY WOULD COOPERATE--REALLY COOPERATE--IN BRINGING IT ABOUT. HE CRITICIZED US POLICE FOR SEEKING TO "EXCLUDE" CONFIDENTIAL

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USSR FROM PEACE SETTLEMENT PROCESS. I DISPUTED THIS ASSERTION. I SAID

OVER THE YEARS WE HAD TESTED VERY MINUTELY HOW FAR SOVIETS WERE WILLING TO GO IN HELPING TO BRING ABOUT PEACE SETTLEMENT AND OUR CONSIDERED CONCLUSION WAS THAT IT WAS NOT VERY FAR. WE CONTINUED TO VALUE AND SEEK COOPERATION OF SOVIETS IN MIDDLE EAST BUT WE HAD TO BE REALISTIC ABOUT PRACTICAL LIMITATIONS OF THAT COOPERATION. PACHACHI SAID GLUMLY HE STILL THOUGHT US

WANTED PEACE SETTLEMENT TO HAVE "MADE IN AMERICA" LABEL.

5. PACHACHI'S PESSIMISTIC LINE IS DISTURBING BECAUSE THIS IS
UNDOUBTEDLY ANALYSIS HE IS GIVING SHAIKH ZAYID AND OTHER RULERS.
WE ALSO HEAR INDIRECTLY THAT EGYPTIANS HERE HAVE RECENTLY BEGUN TO
TAKE MORE RESERVED LINE ABOUT US PEACE EFFORTS.
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